

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 OMB-01 INT-08 SCI-06 SCEM-02 IO-14 /*38 **

DRAFTED BY AF/C:SJHAMRICK:DJW

APPROVED BY AF/C - HERMAN J. COHEN

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R 082146Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, ENRG, CG

SUBJECT: MOBUTU TAKEOVER OF PETROLEUM DISTRIBUTION AGENCY

REF: KINSHASA 10999, 11101, 11242

1. AMBASSADOR MET WITH MOBIL REP BUTLER AND MARZULA JAN 8 AT DEPARTMENT FOR BRIEFING ON CURRENT STATUS OF GOZ-MOBIL TALKS. BUTLER SAID HE HAD DISPATCHED LEONARD, HIS DEPUTY FROM NEW YORK, TO KINSHASA TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH GOZ OFFICIALS. DISCUSSIONS BELIEVED CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS AND MOBIL ANTICIPATES LEONARD'S RETURN WEEKEND OF JAN 12-13. MOBIL IS TAKING CONCILIATORY LINE AND IS HOPEFUL THAT MODUS OPERANDI CAN BE WORKED OUT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF NEW GOZ'S NEW PETROLEUM POLICY WHICH WOULD PERMIT MOBIL'S CONTINUED OPERATION IN ZAIRE.

2. AMBASSADOR WILL MEET AGAIN WITH BUTLER WEEK OF JANUARY 18 TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF LEONARD TALKS IN KINSHASA. SUCCESS OF THOSE TALKS WILL DEPEND TO LARGE EXTENT UPON LEONARD'S SUCCESS IN EDUCATING UMBA --AND ULTIMATELY, MOBUTU--AS TO THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS NEW POLICY WILL

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CREATE, PARTICULARLY IN THE COST TO ZAIRE OF MEETING ITS

PETROLEUM NEEDS.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT ADVISED AS TO OUTCOME

NOT RPT NOT PRESENTLY UNDERWAY, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD
BE IN GOZ'S INTEREST TO HEAR LEONARD OUT AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE AND EMBASSY SHOULD ENCOURAGE SUCH AN EXCHANGE.
KISSINGER

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